

NWS Seattle Weather Briefing

Briefing will begin at 10:32 AM



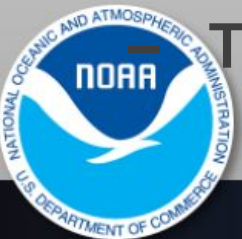
Key Points

- The heaviest freezing rain pushed out of the area early this morning. However, the freezing rain threat continues for the Puget Sound area with showers around, and many places continuing to see temperatures at or below freezing.
 - Temperatures will slowly warm above freezing through this afternoon. Impacts on roadways will likely continue through this the afternoon, and diminish later today into this evening.
 - It may take into Saturday before some of the side streets clear of ice.
 - Freezing rain concerns continue for the Cascade Passes, especially Snoqualmie and Stevens, through Saturday
- Rapidly warming temperatures and moderate to heavy rain could lead significant rain-on-snow impacts including river flooding, urban flooding, etc. through the holiday weekend, with a wet/warm system on Saturday.
- River flooding this weekend likely through at least early next week, with another round of heavier rainfall and warmer temperatures beginning Sunday. Additional systems could impact the area but shifting southward through the week. Landslide danger will increase with melting snow and rainfall.
- King tides will create a threat of minor tidal overflow by Saturday. Potential for coastal flooding exists this afternoon along the north Pacific coastline. The threat of coastal flooding/erosion then increases Saturday onward as westerly swells increase.
- Rapidly rising avalanche danger early into the weekend, especially for the upper elevations.



What's Changed

- COASTAL FLOODING
 - Increase in coastal flooding potential through early next week
 - Coastal Flooding concerns for the north Pacific coast today
 - Concerns increase for all coastlines Saturday into early next week
 - SATURDAY RAIN
 - *Slight* decrease in rainfall amounts on Saturday
 - ATMOSPHERIC RIVERS
 - A bit more clarity in the timing of additional weather systems, beginning Saturday, with another system late Sunday into Monday
 - Continued signal for a warmer, wet weather pattern through mid-week for river flooding concerns. Additional systems look to shift southward through mid and late week.
- This rainfall will increase the risk of landslides across western Washington.



THROUGH FRIDAY NIGHT

Warming, Freezing Rain Threat Ending

Precipitation likely to continue as on and off freezing rain showers through this morning, with a gradual warming trend through this afternoon. Freezing rain may linger longer for Whatcom County. Temperatures warming to above freezing by this evening into early tonight. Coastal Flooding concerns for the North Pacific coast.

SUNDAY THROUGH TUESDAY

Multiple Storm System

Additional rounds of heavier rainfall as well as warmer temperatures are expected during this period. River levels will continue to increase for likely river flooding. **Periods of windy conditions are possible.** Coastal Flooding concerns.

SATURDAY

Warmer & Rain Begins

Rain is likely to increase in intensity Saturday morning. Rain on snow could lead to urban flooding and will cause rivers to begin to rise across the region. Breezy south winds across the area. Likely snow or freezing rain at the Passes, with snow levels rising to 4000 ft by late Saturday. Coastal Flooding concerns.

WEDNESDAY ONWARD

Warmer & Rain Begins

Additional weather systems may impact the area, with systems looking to shift southward through late week. Continued concerns for river flooding, breezy winds, and periods of mountain snow.

WEATHER
TIMELINE



24-HOUR Ice Accumulation Probabilities

10AM Friday - 10 AM Saturday

What is this?

These graphs show the probability that ice accumulation will exceed the specified thresholds for select locations. Values above 50% indicate that ice accumulation of this amount has a greater than 50/50 chance of occurring. This data is derived from the National Blend of Models (NBM) and may differ from the official NWS forecast.

	PROBABILITY OF			
Location	> 0.01"	>0.10"	> 0.25"	> 0.50"
Areas from Bellingham to Mt. Vernon	45% <i>(down to 35% in Mt. Vernon)</i>	5%	<5%	0%
Areas from Arlington to Lynnwood	40%	0%	0%	0%
Areas from Seattle to Tacoma	55% <i>(down to 30% in Tacoma)</i>	5%	0%	0%
Areas from Olympia to Chehalis	15%	0%	0%	0%
Areas from Forks to Grays Harbor	<5% <i>(up to 15% in Grays Harbor)</i>	0%	0%	0%
Northern Olympic Peninsula	<5%	0%	0%	0%
Kitsap Peninsula/Hood Canal Area	30%	<5%	0%	0%
Cascade Foothills >500' (e.g. N. Bend, Enumclaw)	15% <i>(up to 55% in North Bend)</i>	5% <i>(up to 10% near North Bend)</i>	0%	0%



Wind: South Winds

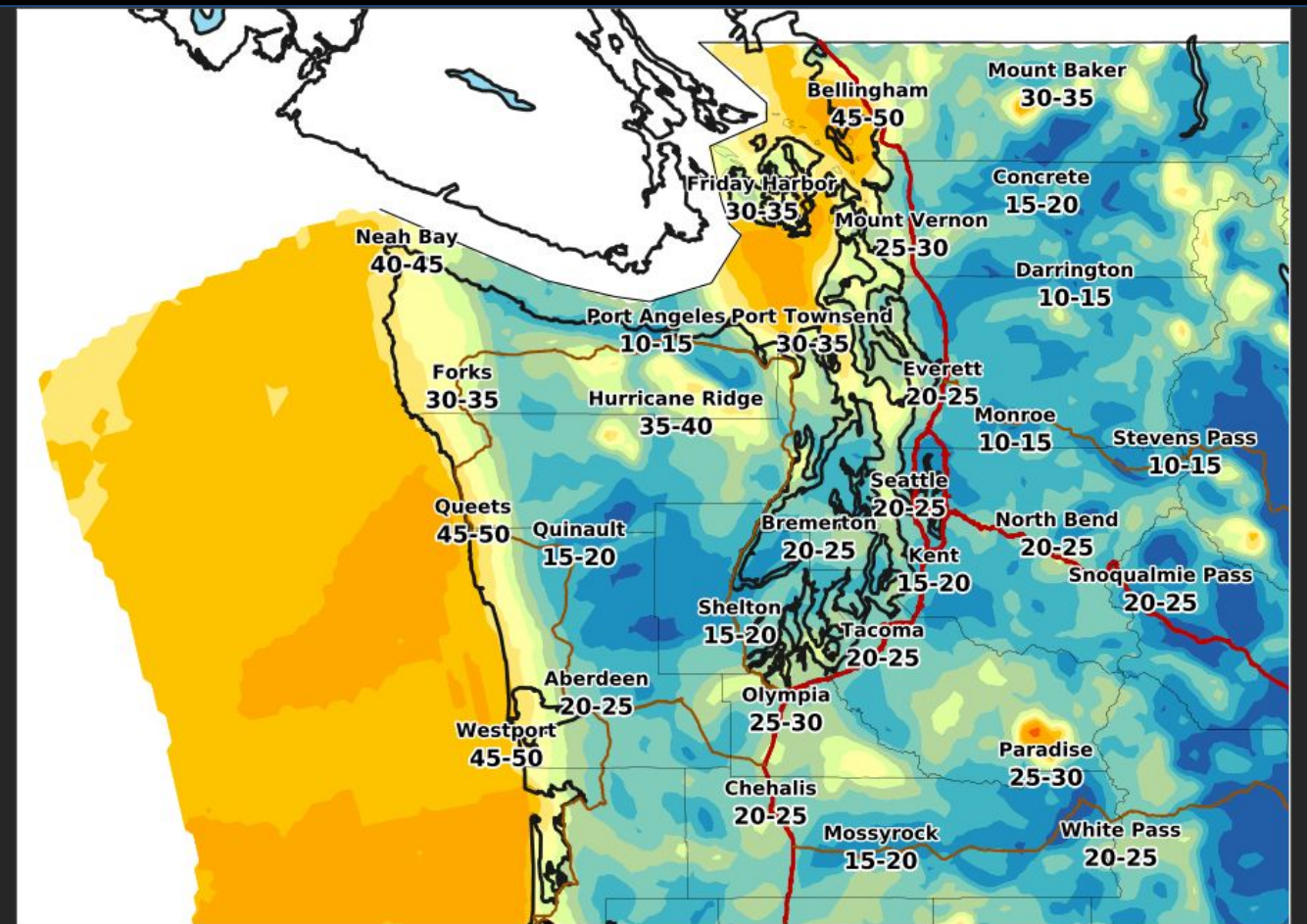
- **TIMING**

Southerly winds increase on Saturday across the area. Winds will be strongest along the coast as well as the northern areas (Western Whatcom, Skagit, Admiralty Inlet, and the San Juan Islands).

- **POWER OUTAGE POTENTIAL**

Slightly higher power outage potential than usual due to any areas of lingering snow or ice on trees and power lines.

Wind Gusts (Saturday)



Created: 05:40 PM GMT 12/23/2022
Speed (MPH)
weather.gov/Seattle



Peak Wind Gust Scenarios

	Low End Max Wind Gusts <i>(9 in 10 chance of gusts this high)</i>	Most Likely Max Wind Gusts	High End Max Wind Gusts <i>(1 in 10 chance of gusts this high)</i>
Coast	30-40 mph	40-50 mph	50-55 mph
Eastern Strait of Juan de Fuca/Admiralty (including Port Townsend, northern Whidbey Island, southern San Juan County)	30-40 mph	40-50 mph	50-55 mph
North Interior (Western Whatcom/Skagit/San Juan Islands)	30-40 mph	40-50 mph strongest near Bellingham & San Juans	50-60 mph strongest near Bellingham
Central Interior (Western Snohomish/King/Pierce, Mason and Kitstap Counties)	15-25 mph	30-40 mph	35-45 mph
South Interior (Thurston and Western Lewis Counties)	25-35 mph	30-40 mph	40-45 mph



River Flooding

[AHPS Page](#)

- **TIMING**

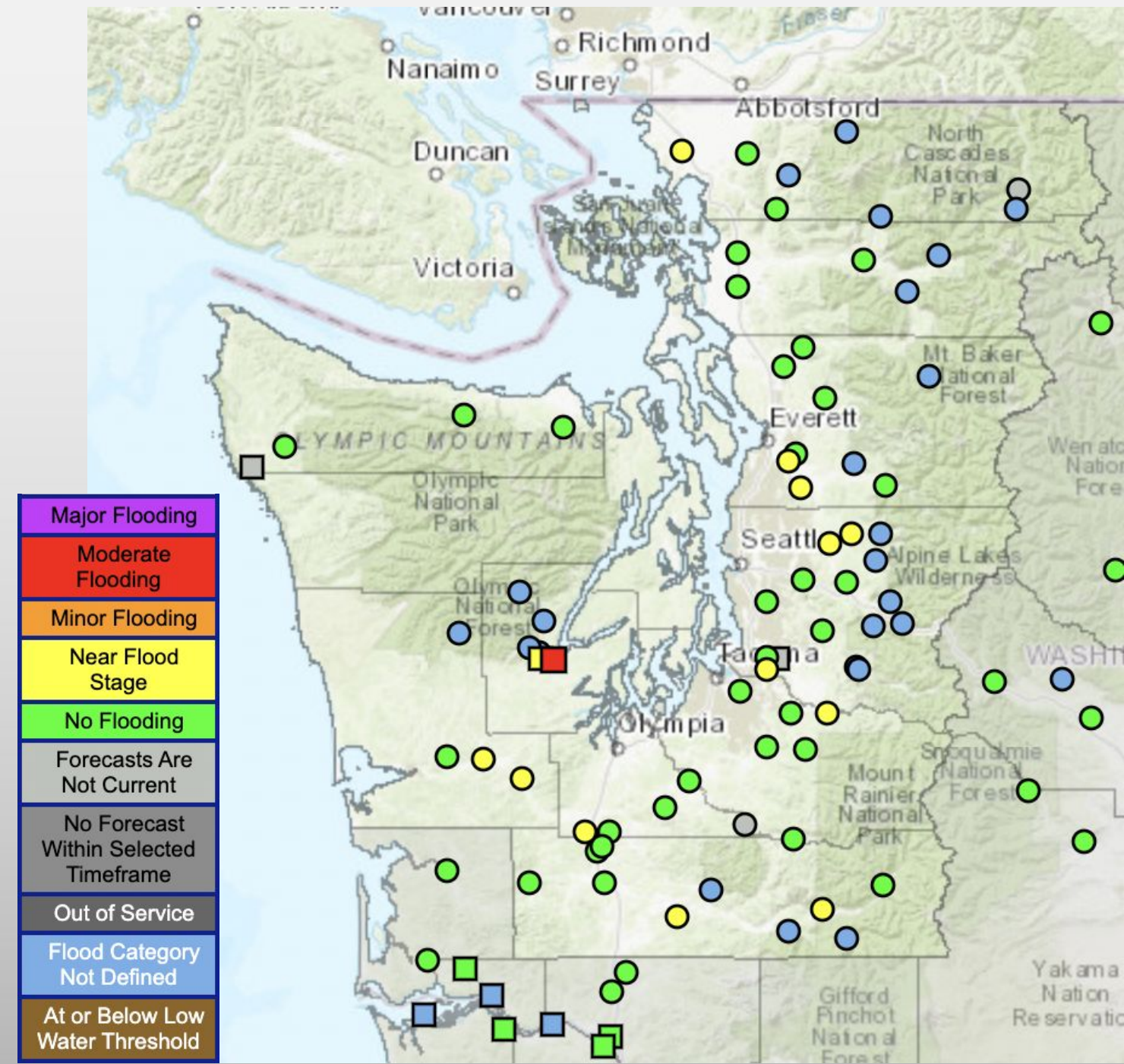
River levels increase this weekend and likely continue to rise through early next week with a series of warmer weather systems impacting the area. After Monday, the storm track shifts southward likely signaling a reprieve from the heaviest rain across the northern half of the CWA.

- **LOCATION**

At this time, it is difficult to identify any specific river basin that may be impacted (outside of the Skokomish River). Rivers across the area will need to be monitored.

- **UNCERTAINTY**

Some uncertainty not only exists with rainfall amounts, but also the amount of snowmelt during this period from the warmer temperatures which will impact river levels.



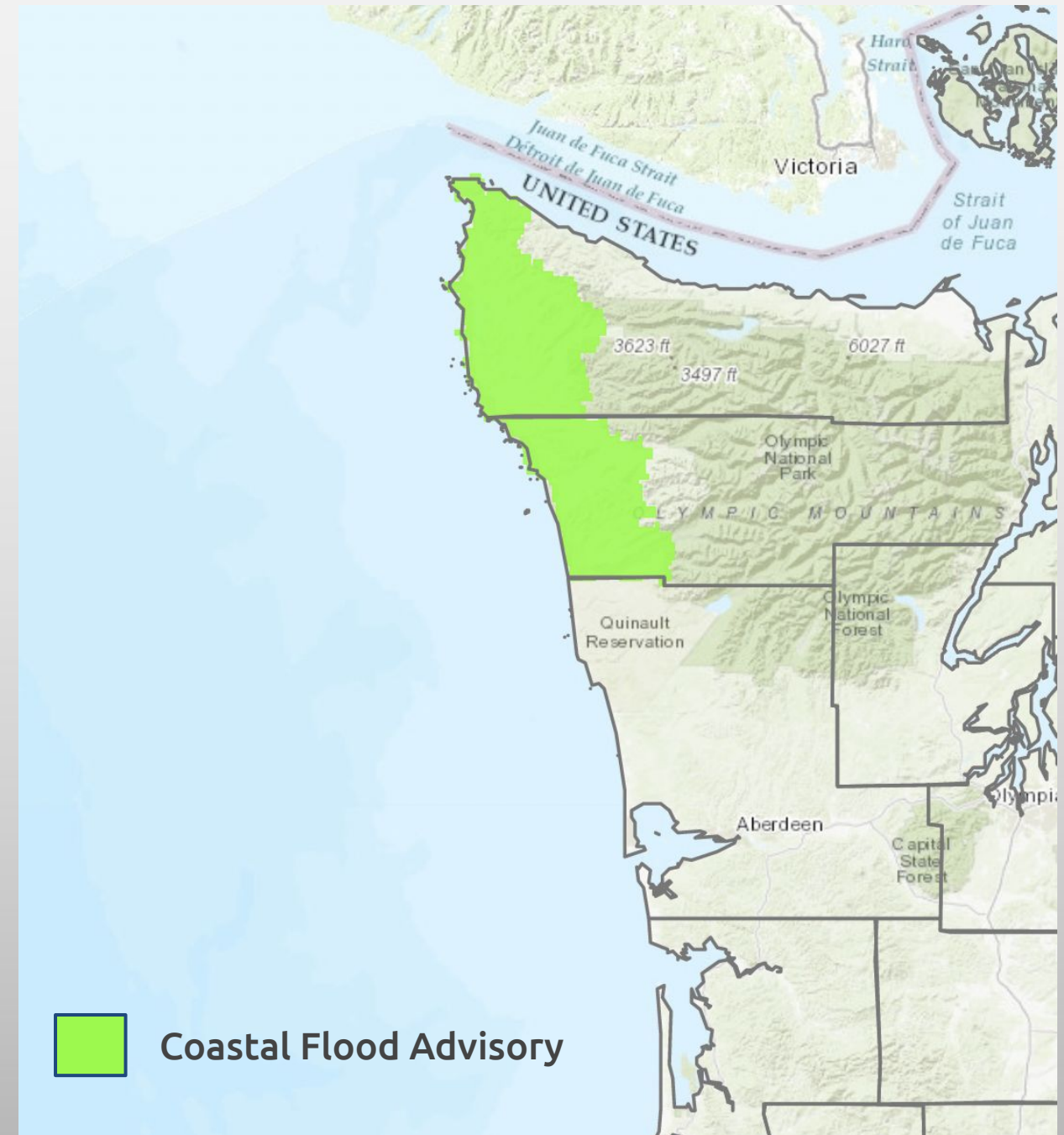
Coastal Flooding

- **TIMING**
Friday

Coastal flooding concerns exists this afternoon for the Northern Pacific coastline (hazard map on the right).

Saturday-Early Next week

Coastal flooding concerns increase for the Pacific coastline as well as the interior waters during this period. Swells increase to 15-20 feet from the southwest Sunday night into next week which could result in more impactful surf conditions during high tide.



Safety Graphics

More resources available at: weather.gov/wrn/winter_safety

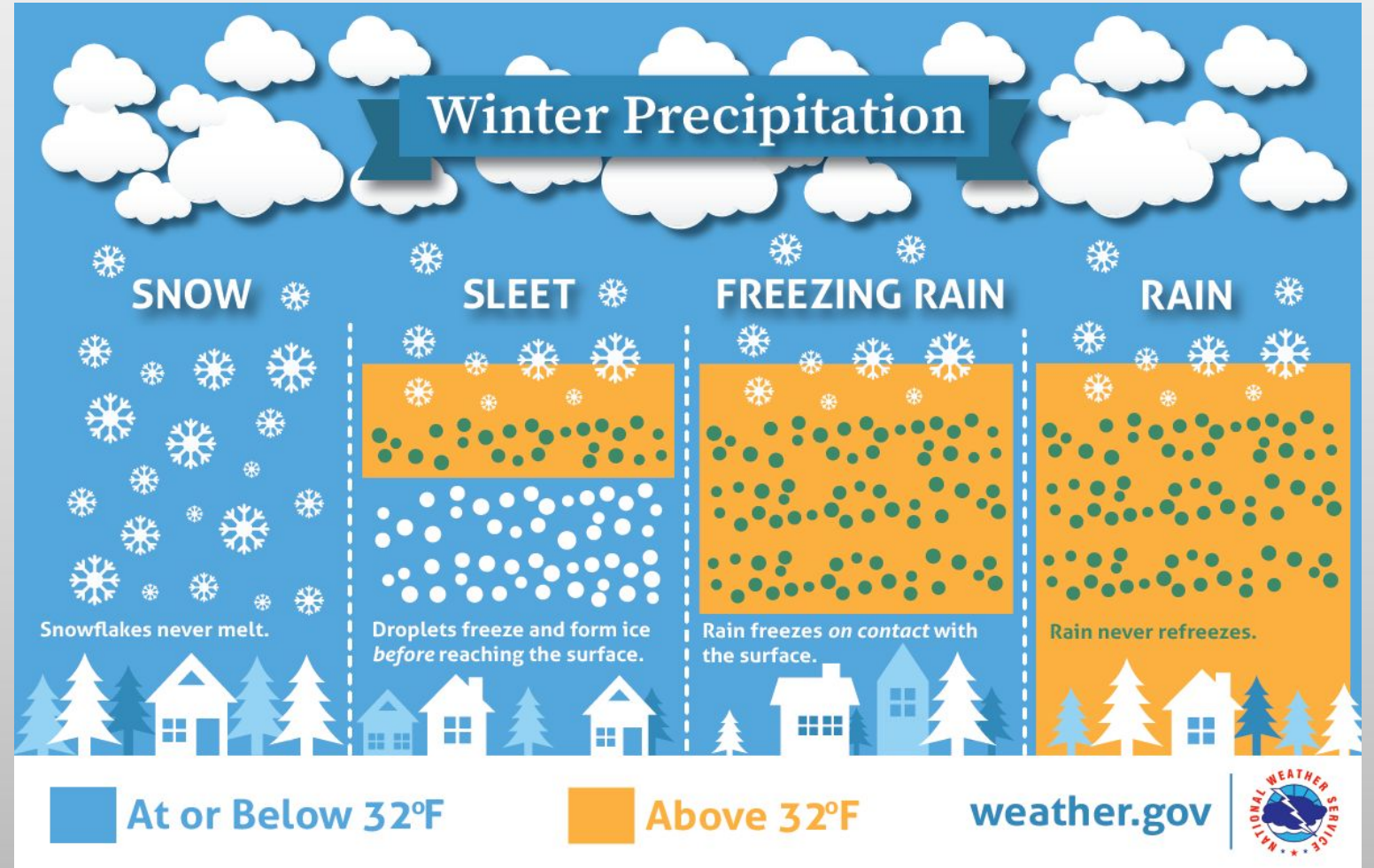


Holiday Travel
Road Trip Safety Tips



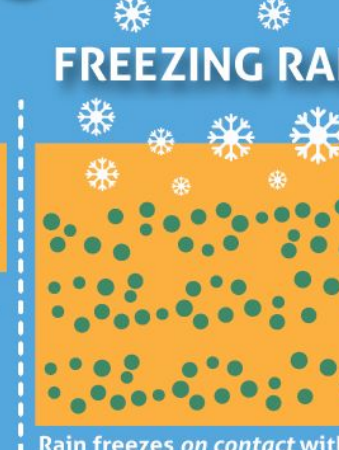
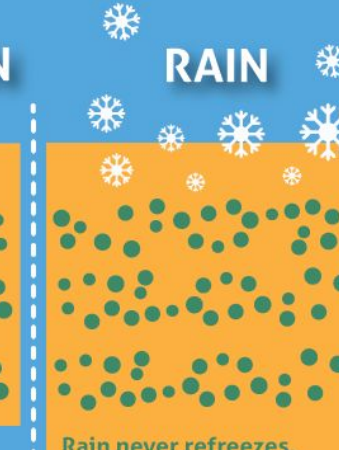
PACK AN EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT FOR YOUR VEHICLE


MOBILE PHONE, CHARGER, BATTERIES	SAND OR CAT LITTER FOR TRACTION
BLANKETS/SLEEPING BAGS	PORTABLE SHOVEL
FLASHLIGHT WITH EXTRA BATTERIES	WINDSHIELD SCRAPER AND BRUSH
FIRSTAID KIT	TOOL KIT WITH A KNIFE
HIGH-CALORIE, NON-PERISHABLE FOOD	BATTERY BOOSTER CABLES
EXTRA CLOTHING TO KEEP DRY	WATER CONTAINER







Winter Precipitation

SNOW	SLEET	FREEZING RAIN	RAIN
			
Snowflakes never melt.	Droplets freeze and form ice before reaching the surface.	Rain freezes on contact with the surface.	Rain never refreezes.





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